CLAIMS:

1. An isolated proteinaccous molecule involved in or associated with regulation of cell activity and/or viability comprising a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence, at least a portion of which, is capable of being amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using the following primers:

5' ACAGAATTCTGGGTIGTIACIGCIGCICAYTG3' [SEQ ID NO:1]; and

5'ACAGAATTCAXIGGICCICCIC/GT/AXTCICC3' [SEQ ID NO:2];

or a complementary form of said primers.

2. An isolated proteinaceous molecule according to claim 1 wherein said molecule is a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

3. An isolated proteinaccous molecule according to claim 1 wherein said molecule is a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

4. An isolated proteinase molecule according to claim 1 wherein said molecule is a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity thereto.

5. An isolated proteinaceous molecule according to claim 1 wherein said molecule is a serine proteinase comprising a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

6. An isolated proteinaceous molecule according to claim 1 wherein said molecule is a serine proteinase comprising a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

7. An isolated proteinaceous molecule according to claim 1 wherein said molecule is a serine proteinase comprising a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

8. An isolated proteinaceous molecule according to claim 1 wherein said molecule is a kinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:10 or having 50% amino acid similarity thereto.

9. An isolated proteinaceous molecule according to claim 1 wherein said molecule is a kinase comprising an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

10. An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide wherein at least a portion of said nucleic acid molecule is capable of being amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using the following primers:

5' ACAGAATTCTGGGTIGTIACIGCIGCICAYTG3' [SEQ ID NO:1]; and

5'ACAGAATTCAXIGGICCICCIC/GT/AXTCICC3' [SEQ ID NO:2];

or a complementary form of said primers.

11. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 10 wherein said polypeptide is a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

12. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 10 wherein said polypeptide is a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

13. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 10 wherein said polypeptide is a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity thereto.

14. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 10 comprising a sequence of nucleotides substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

15. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 10 comprising a sequence of nucleotides substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

16. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 10 comprising a sequence of nucleotides substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

17. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 10 wherein said polypeptide is a kinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:10 or having 50% amino acid similarity thereto.

18. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 17 comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

19. An isolated serine proteinase encoded by a gene proximal to a cluster of genes of a mammalian chromosome.

20. An isolated serine proteinase according to claim 19 wherein the mammalian chromosome is human chromosome 16p13.3 or its equivalent in a non-human species.

21. An isolated serine proteinase according to claim 20 wherein the gene cluster includes at least two genes having the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or 5 or 28 or 29 or 30 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity to any one of SEQ ID NO:3 or 5 or 28 or 29 or 30 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing to any one of the sequences under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

22. An isolated serine proteinase according to claim 20 wherein said serine proteinase is a short form of HELA2 having an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

23. An isolated serine proteinase according to claim 20 wherein said serine proteinase is a long form of HELA2 having an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

24. An isolated serine proteinase according to claim 22 encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a sequence capable of hybridizing to SEQ I NO:3 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

38. A method according to claim 31 wherein the serine proteinase comprises a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

39. A method according to claim 31 wherein the kinase comprises an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:10 or having 50% amino acid similarity thereto.

40. A method according to claim 31 wherein the kinase comprises an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

41. A method of modulating fertility in a mammal said method comprising modulating levels of HELA2 wherein increasing levels of HELA2 facilitates sperm maturation and development.

42. A method according to claim 41 wherein fertility is enhanced by introducing recombinant HELA2.

43. A method according to claim 41 wherein fertility is reduced by down regulating expression of the HELA2 gene.

44. A composition comprising a serine proteinase and/or kinase capable of regulating cell activity and/or viability and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or diluents.

45. A composition according to claim 44 wherein the serine proteinase is HELA2 or a functional derivative thereof.

46. An isolated antibody capable of interacting with a proteinaceous molecule involved in or associated with regulation of cell activity and/or viability comprising a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence, at least a portion of which, is capable of being

amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using the following primers:

5' ACAGAATTCTGGGTIGTIACIGCIGCICAYTG3' [SEQ ID NO:1]; and

5'ACAGAATTCAXIGGICCICCIC/GT/AXTCICC3' [SEQ ID NO:2];

or a complementary form of said primers.

47. An isolated antibody according to claim 46 wherein said proteinaceous molecule is a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

48. An isolated antibody according to claim 46 wherein said proteinaceous molecule is a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

49. An isolated antibody according to claim 46 wherein said proteinaceous molecule is a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity thereto.

50. An isolated antibody according to claim 46 wherein said proteinaceous molecule is a serine proteinase comprising a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

51. An isolated antibody according to claim 46 wherein said proteinaceous molecule is a serine proteinase comprising a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

52. An isolated antibody according to claim 46 wherein said proteinaceous said molecule is a serine proteinase comprising a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

53. An isolated antibody according to claim 46 wherein said proteinaceous molecule is a kinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:10 or having 50% amino acid similarity thereto.

54. An isolated antibody according to claim 46 wherein said proteinaceous molecule is a kinase comprising an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

55. An antagonist or agonist to the isolated proteinaceous molecule according to any one of claims 1 to 9.

56. A method of determining a predisposition for or the presence of a cancer, said method comprising determining the presence of a nucleotide sequence encoding a proteinaceous molecule according to any one of claims 1 to 9.

57. A method according to claim 56 wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes a polypeptide wherein at least a portion of said nucleotide sequence is capable of being amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using the following primers:

5′ ACAGAATTCTGGGTIGTIACIGCIGCICAYTG3′ [SEQ ID NO:1]; and

5′ACAGAATTCAXIGGICCICCIC/GT/AXTCICC3′ [SEQ ID NO:2];

or a complementary form of said primers.

58. A method according to claim 57 wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

59. A method according to claim 57 wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

60. A method according to claim 57 wherein said nucleotide sequence encodes a serine proteinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity thereto.

61. A method according to claim 57 wherein said nucleotide sequence is as substantially set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or is a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

62. A method according to claim 57 wherein said nucleotide sequence is as substantially set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

63. A method according to claim 57 wherein said nucleotide sequence is as substantially set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

64. A method according to claim 57 wherein said nucleotide sequence is as substantially set forth in SEQ ID NO:10 or having 50% amino acid similarity thereto.

comprising a sequence of nucleotides substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 or having 50% similarity to all or part thereof or a nucleic acid molecule capable of hybridising to SEQ ID NO:7 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

Even still another aspect of the present invention provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 or having 50% similarity to all or part thereof or a nucleic acid molecule capable of hybridising to SEQ ID NO:9 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

Another aspect of the present invention provides an isolated serine proteinase encoded by a gene proximal to a cluster of genes on a mammalian chromosome.

More particularly, this aspect of the present invention is directed to a serine proteinase encoded by a gene proximal to a cluster of genes or human chromosome 16p13.3 or its equivalent in a non-human species.

Still more particularly, the serine proteinase is encoded by a gene comprising a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or 5 or 28 or 29 or 30 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity to any one thereof or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing to any one of SEQ ID NO:3 or 5 or 28 or 29 or 30 under low stringency conditions at 42°C or a nucleotide sequence encoding a serine proteinase having an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4 or 6 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity to SEQ ID NO:4 or 6.

Catalytic residues are indicated by circles and cysteines likely involved in disulfide bonding are indicated by squares. (B) Hydrophobicity plot of SP002LA amino acid sequence.

Figure 20C is a representation of: (A) the cDNA sequence of SP003LA (SEQ ID NO:30). Catalytic residues are indicated by circles and cysteines likely involved in disulfide bonding are indicated by squares. (B) Hydrophobicity plot of SP003LA amino acid sequence.

Figure 21 is a photographic representation of *in vitro* transcription/translation of BCON3 showing the protein products.

TABLE 1 (Continued)

	22	Forward primer
	23	Reverse primer
	24	Serine proteinase activation motif
	25 & 26	Mouse HELA2 cDNA sequence
	27	Human genomic DNA sequence
	28	Clustered serine proteinase gene SP001LA
	29	Clustered serine proteinase gene SP002LA
	30	Clustered serine proteinase gene SP003LA

* Abbreviations: X= A or G

Y= C or T

I= Inosine.

50% similarity to all or part thereof. This serine proteinase is referred to herein as a short isoform of "HELA2" or "HELA2 (testisin)". The terms "HELA2" and "testisin" are used interchangedly throughout the subject specification to refer to the same molecule.

In another preferred embodiment, the amino acid sequence of the serine proteinase is substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity to all or part thereof. This serine proteinase is the long isoform of HELA2 or HELA2 (testisin).

Yet another preferred embodiment of the present invention provides an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity to all or part thereof. This serine proteinase is referred to herein as "ATC2".

Another aspect of the present invention relates to a serine proteinase in isolated form comprising a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity to all or part thereof or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

Still another aspect of the present invention is directed to a serine proteinase in isolated form comprising a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity to all or part thereof or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

In another aspect of the present invention, there is provided a serine proteinase in isolated form comprising a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity to all or part thereof or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

Another embodiment of the present invention is directed to a kinase in isolated form comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:10 or having 50% amino acid similarity to all or part thereof. This kinase is referred to herein as "BCON3".

In a related embodiment, the kinase comprises an amino acid sequence encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity to all or part of the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

The present invention further provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding or complementary to a sequence encoding a novel molecule involved in or associated with regulation of cell activity and/or viability. Preferably, the nucleic acid molecule is capable of being amplified by PCR using the primers set forth in SEQ ID NO:1 and/or SEQ ID NO:2.

More particularly, the present invention further provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or having 50% similarity to all or part thereof or a nucleic acid molecule capable of hybridising to SEQ ID NO:3 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

Another aspect of the present invention provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 or having 50% similarity to all or part thereof or a nucleic acid molecule capable of hybridising to SEQ ID NO:5 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

Another aspect of the present invention is directed to an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:7 or having 50% similarity to all or part thereof or a nucleic acid molecule capable of hybridising to SEQ ID NO:7 under low stringency conditions at 42°C

Still another aspect of the present invention provides an isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 or having 50% similarity to all or part thereof or a nucleic acid molecule capable of hybridising to SEQ ID NO:9 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

Reference herein to a low stringency includes low stringency at 42°C includes and encompasses from at least about 1% v/v to at least about 15% v/v formamide and from at least about 1M to at least about 2M salt for hybridisation, and at least about 1M to at least about 2M salt for washing conditions. Alternative stringency conditions may be applied where necessary, such as medium stringency, which includes and encompasses from at least about 16% v/v to at least about 30% v/v formamide and from at least about 0.5M to at least about 0.9M salt for hybridisation, and at least about 0.5M to at least about 0.9M salt for washing conditions, or high stringency, which includes and encompasses from at least about 31% v/v to at least about 50% v/v formamide and from at least about 0.01M to at least about 0.15M salt for hybridisation, and at least about 0.01M to at least about 0.15M salt for washing conditions.

Reference herein to similarity to "part" of a sequence means similarity to at least about 4 contiguous amino acids or at least about 12 contiguous nucleotide bases and more preferably at least about 7 contiguous amino acids or at least about 21 contiguous nucleotide bases.

The term "similarity" includes exact identity between sequences or, where the sequence differs, different amino acids may be related to each other at the structural, functional, biochemical and/or conformational levels.

The term "isolated" includes biological purification and biological separation and encompasses molecules having undergone at least one purification, concentration or separation step relative to its natural environment. For example, a preparation may comprise at least about 10%, preferably at least about 20%, more preferably at least about 30%, still more preferably at least about 50% or greater of the molecule relative to at least one other component in a composition as determined by activity, mass, amino acid content, nucleotide content or other convenient means.

Tyrosine residues on the other hand, may be altered by nitration with tetranitromethane to form a 3-nitrotyrosine derivative.

Modification of the imidazole ring of a histidine residue may be accomplished by alkylation with iodoacetic acid derivatives or N-carbethoxylation with diethylpyrocarbonate.

Examples of incorporating unnatural amino acids and derivatives during peptide synthesis include, but are not limited to, use of norleucine, 4-amino butyric acid, 4-amino-3-hydroxy-5-phenylpentanoic acid, 6-aminohexanoic acid, t-butylglycine, norvaline, phenylglycine, ornithine, sarcosine, 4-amino-3-hydroxy-6-methylheptanoic acid, 2-thienyl alanine and/or D-isomers of amino acids. A list of unnatural amino acid, contemplated herein is shown in Table 3.

TABLE 3

Non-conventional amino acid	Code	Non-conventional amino acid	Code
α-aminobutyric acid	Abu	L-N-methylalanine	Nmala
α-amino-α-methylbutyrate	Mgabu	L-N-methylarginine	Nmarg
aminocyclopropane-carboxylate	Cpro	L-N-methylasparagine	Nmasn
		L-N-methylaspartic acid	Nmasp
aminoisobutyric acid	Aib	L-N-methylcysteine	Nmcys
aminonorbornyl-carboxylate	Norb	L-N-methylglutamine	Nmgln
		L-N-methylglutamic acid	Nmglu
cyclohexylalanine		Chexa L-N-methylhistidine	Nmhis
cyclopentylalanine	Cpen	L-N-methylisolleucine	Nmile
D-alanine	Dal	L-N-methylleucine	Nmleu
D-arginine	Darg	L-N-methyllysine	Nmlys
D-aspartic acid	Dasp	L-N-methylmethionine	Nmmet
D-cysteine	Dcys	L-N-methylnorleucine	Nmnle
D-glutamine	Dgln	L-N-methylnorvaline	Nmnva
D-glutamic acid	Dglu	L-N-methylornithine	Nmorn
D-histidine	Dhis	L-N-methylphenylalanine	Nmphe
D-isoleucine	Dile	L-N-methylproline	Nmpro
D-leucine	Dleu	L-N-methylserine	Nmser
D-lysine	Dlys	L-N-methylthreonine	Nmthr
D-methionine	Dmet	L-N-methyltryptophan	Nmtrp
D-ornithine	Dorn	L-N-methyltyrosine	Nmtyr
D-phenylalanine	Dphe	L-N-methylvaline	Nmval
D-proline	Dpro	L-N-methylethylglycine	Nmetg
D-serine	Dser	L-N-methyl-t-butylglycine	Nmtbug
D-threonine	Dthr	L-norleucine	Nle
D-tryptophan	Dtrp	L-norvaline	Nva

	D-N-methyllysine	Dnmlys	N-methyl-γ-aminobutyrate	Nmgabu
	N-methylcyclohexylalanine	Nmchexa	D-N-methylmethionine	Dnmmet
	D-N-methylornithine	Dnmorn	N-methylcyclopentylalanine	Nmcpen
	N-methylglycine	Nala	D-N-methylphenylalanine	Dnmphe
5	N-methylaminoisobutyrate	Nmaib	D-N-methylproline	Dnmpro
	N-(1-methylpropyl)glycine	Nile	D-N-methylserine	Dnmser
	N-(2-methylpropyl)glycine	Nleu	D-N-methylthreonine	Dnmthr
	D-N-methyltryptophan	Dnmtrp	N-(1-methylethyl)glycine	Nval
	D-N-methyltyrosine	Dnmtyr	N-methyla-napthylalanine	Nmanap
10	D-N-methylvaline	Dnmval	N-methylpenicillamine	Nmpen
	γ-aminobutyric acid	Gabu	N-(*p*-hydroxyphenyl)glycine	Nhtyr
	L-*t*-butylglycine	Tbug	N-(thiomethyl)glycine	Ncys
	L-ethylglycine	Etg	penicillamine	Pen
	L-homophenylalanine	Hphe	L-α-methylalanine	Mala
15	L-α-methylarginine	Marg	L-α-methylasparagine	Masn
	L-α-methylaspartate	Masp	L-α-methyl-*t*-butylglycine	Mtbug
	L-α-methylcysteine	Mcys	L-methylethylglycine	Metg
	L-α-methylglutamine	Mgln	L-α-methylglutamate	Mglu
	L-α-methylhistidine	Mhis	L-α-methylhomophenylalanine	Mhphe
20	L-α-methylisoleucine	Mile	N-(2-methylthioethyl)glycine	Nmet
	L-α-methylleucine	Mleu	L-α-methyllysine	Mlys
	L-α-methylmethionine	Mmet	L-α-methylnorleucine	Mnle
	L-α-methylnorvaline	Mnva	L-α-methylornithine	Morn
	L-α-methylphenylalanine	Mphe	L-α-methylproline	Mpro
25	L-α-methylserine	Mser	L-α-methylthreonine	Mthr
	L-α-methyltryptophan	Mtrp	L-α-methyltyrosine	Mtyr

range of therapeutic molecules capable of modulating expression of their native counterparts or modulating their activity. Modulators contemplated by the present invention includes agonists and antagonists of proteinase/kinase expression. Antagonists of proteinase/kinase expression include antisense molecules, ribozymes and co-suppression molecules. Agonists include molecules which increase promoter ability or interfere with negative regulatory mechanisms. Agonists of proteinase/kinase include molecules which overcome any negative regulatory mechanism. Antagonists of the proteinase/kinase include antibodies and inhibitor peptide fragments.

Other derivatives contemplated by the present invention include a range of glycosylation variants from a completely unglycosylated molecule to a modified glycosylated molecule. Altered glycosylation patterns may result from expression of recombinant molecules in different host cells.

Another embodiment of the present invention contemplates a method for modulating expression of proteinase/kinase in a human, said method comprising contacting the proteinase/kinase gene encoding proteinase/kinase with an effective amount of a modulator of proteinase/kinase expression for a time and under conditions sufficient to up-regulate or down-regulate or otherwise modulate expression of proteinase/kinase. For example, a nucleic acid molecule encoding proteinase/kinase or a derivative thereof may be introduced into a cell conversely, proteinase/kinase antisense sequences such as oligonucleotides may be introduced.

Another aspect of the present invention contemplates a method of modulating activity of proteinase/kinase in a human, said method comprising administering to said mammal a modulating effective amount of a molecule for a time and under conditions sufficient to increase or decrease proteinase/kinase activity. The molecule may be a proteinaceous molecule or a chemical entity and may also be a derivative of proteinase/kinase or its receptor or a chemical analogue or truncation mutant of proteinase/kinase or its receptor.

One particularly useful serine proteinase, HELA2 (testisin), is implicated in spermatogenesis and in testicular tumour development. It is proposed, in accordance with the present invention,

EXAMPLE 1
CLONING PROCEDURES

In order to identify serine proteinases that may be involved in regulatory cellular functions, a genetic screening approach was applied using degenerate primers corresponding to conserved regions of serine proteinases (amino acids flanking His- and Ser- residues) to amplify gene fragments spanning these regions from cDNA, using a low stringency RT-PCR (Reverse Transcriptase-Polymerase Chain Reaction) approach.

By this technique, the aim was to isolate low abundance genes as well as those present in moderate to high abundance. The cDNA used for these experiments was isolated from a HeLa cell cytotoxicity model wherein PAI-2 expression inhibits TNF(-induced apoptosis (Dickinson *et al. J. Biol. Chem.* 270: 27894-27904, 1995). These PAI-2 expressing cells provide a unique and viable system for investigating TNF(signalling pathways as they are protected from the cytotoxic effects of TNF).

cDNA was generated from RNA isolated from HeLa cells and PAI-2 expressing HeLa cells, both untreated and following treatment with TNF and cycloheximide. Amplification of each cDNA population using PCR and the following serine proteinase degenerate primers,

His Primer: 5'ACAGAATTCTGGGTIGTIACIGCIGCICAYTG3' [SEQ ID NO:1],
Ser Primer: 5'ACAGAATTCAXIGGICCICCIC/GT/AXTCICC3' [SEQ ID NO:2]

(where X= A or G; Y= C or T; I= Inosine)

produced DNA fragments in the range of 480bp, the approximate predicted size of the serine proteinase intergenic region. These amplified DNA fragments were cloned into E. coli generating a library containing approximately 150 independent clones. The inventors analysed 36 of these clones and found that 9 encoded previously identified serine proteinases or tissue-type or urokinase-type plasminogen activators, thereby demonstrating the efficacy of this approach. Of the other 36, two were found to encode novel open reading frames with high homology to serine proteinases and are referred to herein as "HELA2" (or "testisin") and

approximately 35kD (Fig. 2B), which is the same as size predicted from the open reading frame, demonstrating that HELA2 cDNA encodes a protein. The translation/transcription coupled rabbit reticulocyte lysate system (Promega) was used as per the manufacturer's instructions for 35S-methionine labelling. Clones of HELA2 in pBluescript a PAI-2 positive control were used with T3-RNA polymerase (sense direction).

EXAMPLE 4

EXPRESSION OF RECOMBINANT HELA2 (TESTISIN) IN E.COLI

(A) Generation of expression constructs

(i) His(6)-tagged recombinant HELA2 (testisin)

To reduce potential toxic effects on host cells, and therefore optimise expression, a strategy was employed to eliminate the hydrophobic residues of the secretory and membrane anchoring domains of HELA2 (testisin) (Testisin (20-295)). Testisin (20-295) fragments which were His6 tagged at either the amino or carboxy terminal were obtained by PCR and expression constructs were generated by inserting these into pQE vectors (Qiagen).

The primers used to generate the amino-terminal tagged protein were:
forward: 5' GCACAGTCGACCAAGCCGGAGTCGCAGAG 3' [SEQ ID NO:11] and
reverse: 5' GCACAAAGCTTGCCAGGAGGGGTCTGGCTG 3' [SEQ ID NO:12]
The amplification product of 858bp was digested with SalI and HindIII and ligated into pQE-10 to give pQE-10(20-295)N (Figure 4).

The primers used to generate the carboxy-terminal tagged protein were:
forward: 5' GCACAACCATGGCCAAGCCGGAGTCGCAGGAG 3' [SEQ ID NO:13] and
reverse 5' GCACAAGATCTCCAGGAGGGGTCTGGCTG 3' [SEQ ID NO:14].
The amplification product of 859 bp was digested with NcoI and BglII and ligated into PQE-60 to give pQE-60(20-295)C (Figure 4).

(ii) GST-tagged recombinant HELA2 (testisin)

In order to generate a fusion of glutathione-S-transferase (GST) and HELA2 (testisin),

Each of the expression constructs is transiently transfected into a eukaryotic cell line (eg. HeLa, CHO or COS cells) by electroporation. Expression is confirmed by Northern blot and immunoblot. The His6 tag is a small, uncharged tag which reportedly does not interfere with cellular membrane interactions and is able to be detected with anti-His6 antibodies. HELA2 (testisin) cellular localisation is analysed by immunofluorescence using antibodies directed against the His6 tag and stained cells examined by confocal microscopy. Mock transfected cells is monitored as one of the controls in these experiments. Cells are examined under non-permeablised and permeabilised conditions to investigate intracellular and cell surface expression of HELA2 (testisin) tagged proteins. Possible release of HELA2 (testisin) into the supernatant is monitored by immunoblotting of conditioned media. Association of HELA2 (testisin) with a particular cellular compartment is confirmed by cellular fractionation studies. Stable transfectants of the full length and truncated tagged HELA2 (testisin) is generated by selection in G418. Recombinant HELA2 (testisin) is purified from these stable transfectants using a metal affinity resin (eg. Qiagen or Clontech) for assay of its bioactivity and efficacy as a therapeutic reagent.

EXAMPLE 7

HELA2 (TESTISIN) IS SPECIFICALLY EXPRESSED IN THE NORMAL TESTIS, AND IS ASSOCIATED WITH SPERM DEVELOPMENT

(A) Normal Tissue Blot

Dot blot analysis of PolyA+ RNA from 50 normal tissue specimens (strandardised to 8 different housekeeping genes) (Clontech) was performed using a 32P-labelled HELA2 (testisin) probe. Hybridization of the radiolabelled probe was in ExpressHyb solution (Clontech) at 65o. The blots were washed to a final stringency of 0.1xSSC/0.5% w/v SDS. High level expression of HELA2 (testisin) was found only in the testis as shown by the histogram plot of the Signal Intensity in Figure 9. In contrast, probing of the same blot with BCON3 showed ubiquitous expression of BCON3 mRNA in a variety of tissues (Figure 9).

(B) Multiple Tissue Northern Blot

DNA sequence analysis.

EXAMPLE 14

HOMOLOGUES OF HUMAN HELA2 (TESTISIN) ARE PRESENT IN OTHER SPECIES

Southern blot analysis of genomic DNA isolated from a range of species using a HELA2 (testisin) cDNA probe shows that homologues of HELA2 (testisin) are present in hamster, mouse, marmoset and monkey. The mouse homologue of HELA2 (testisin) was identified and obtained as an EST clone. The cDNA sequence and corresponding amino acid sequence of mouse HELA2 (testisin) was determined (Figure 18) and is given in SEQ ID NO 27. The mouse cDNA encodes a protein which contains the catalytic triad of His, Asp and Ser (circles) and 10 cysteine residues (small boxes), and an activation site (triangle) as found in HELA2 (testisin). The hydrophilicity plot shows the presence of a hydrophobic sequence at the carboxy terminus suggesting the presence of a putative membrane anchor. Comparison of the mouse and human sequences show 68.1% homology at the cDNA level and 69.1% homology at the amino acid level.

EXAMPLE 15

HELA2 (TESTISIN) IS PART OF A CLUSTER OF HOMOLOGOUS GENES ON CHROMOSOME 16p13.3

Analysis of DNA sequences released to NCBI databases reveals the presence of homologues of HELA2 (testisin) in a cluster on Chromosome 16p13.3. Figure 19 shows the positions of these genes, designated SP001LA, SP002LA, SP003LA, and SP004LA, relative to HELA2 (testisin) and the respective cosmids (Sood, R. et al (1997) Genomics 42: 83-95) in which they are located. Figure 20A, 20B and 20C show the partial cDNA and deduced amino acid sequences of SP001LA, SP002LA, and SP003LA respectively. Each cDNA encodes a protein which contains the catalytic triad of His, Asp and Ser (circles) and 10 cysteine residues (small boxes), and an activation site (triangle) as found in HELA2 (testisin). Comparisons of the cDNA and amino acid sequences from the heavy chain region through to the poly A tail gives

have potential significance for a role for ATC2 in apoptosis and cell death. ATC2 may be intracellular, extracellular or found on the cell surface and is likely to be involved in regulating cell functions. Thus ATC2 may have potential significance in the treatment of cancer and diseases involving dysregulation of cell growth and survival. The nucleotide and corresponding amino acid sequence of ATC2 is shown in SEQ ID NOs: 7 and 8, respectively.

EXAMPLE 16

BCON3

The deduced amino acid sequence of BCON3 (SEQ ID NO:10) reveals that it is novel. At both the DNA and protein level, BCON3 shows homology to members of the kinase family of proteins. Although it cannot be classified as a member of any particular sub-family of kinases, alignments of the BCON3 protein with the conserved domains of thymidine kinases and tyrosine and serine/threonine protein kinases indicates possible ATP/GTP binding and phosphate transfer regions. Thus, it may be the first member of a new family of kinases. Analysis of the translation product using hydrophobicity plots and the Prosite protein analysis algorithms indicates BCON3 may lack an N-terminal signal sequence (that is, it is likely to encode an intracellular protein) and it possesses a nuclear localization signal. BCON3 mRNA is approximately 2300 nucleotides in length. cDNA sequence (SEQ ID NO:9) has been obtained covering about 95% of the transcript and including the 3' poly A tail. BCON3 mRNA is expressed in most normal tissues as demonstrated by dot blot analysis of 50 normal tissue specimens (standardised to 8 different housekeeping genes) (Clontech). (Figure 9). Analysis of BCON3 mRNA expression using a multiple tissue Northern blot displaying polyA+ mRNA from 16 different normal tissues (Clontech) shows that BCON3 is expressed in most tissues (Figure 10B). Expression by in vitro transcription/translation expression using a partial BCON3 cDNA fragment shows BCON3 encodes a protein. Two major transcription/translation products are detected, one of 51kDa, the size predicted from the open reading frame, and a second product of about 43kDa, which may represent a partial translation product (Figure 21).

Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the invention described herein is susceptible to

variations and modifications other than those specifically described. It is to be understood that the invention includes all such variations and modifications. The invention also includes all of the steps, features, compositions and compounds referred to or indicated in this specification, individually or collectively, and any and all combinations of any two or more of said steps or features.

(viii) ATTORNEY/AGENT INFORMATION:
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(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:3:

```
CGCGGGAGAG GAGGCC ATG GGC GCG CGC GGG GCG CTG CTG CTG GCG CTG          49
                  Met Gly Ala Arg Gly Ala Leu Leu Leu Ala Leu
                    1               5                  10

CTG CTG GCT CGG GCT GGA CTC AGG AAG CCG GAG TCG CAG GAG GCG GCG         97
Leu Leu Ala Arg Ala Gly Leu Arg Lys Pro Glu Ser Gln Glu Ala Ala
             15                  20                  25

CCG TTA TCA GGA CCA TGC GGC CGA CGG GTC ATC ACG TCG CGC ATC GTG        145
Pro Leu Ser Gly Pro Cys Gly Arg Arg Val Ile Thr Ser Arg Ile Val
         30                  35                  40

GGT GGA GAG GAC GCC GAA CTC GGG CGT TGG CCG TGG CAG GGG AGC CTG        193
Gly Gly Glu Asp Ala Glu Leu Gly Arg Trp Pro Trp Gln Gly Ser Leu
     45                  50                  55

CGC CTG TGG GAT TCC CAC GTA TGC GGA GTG AGC CTG CTC AGC CAC CGC        241
Arg Leu Trp Asp Ser His Val Cys Gly Val Ser Leu Leu Ser His Arg
 60                  65                  70                  75

TGG GCA CTC ACG GCG GCG CAC TGC TTT GAA ACT GAC CTT AGT GAT CCC        289
Trp Ala Leu Thr Ala Ala His Cys Phe Glu Thr Asp Leu Ser Asp Pro
                 80                  85                  90

TCC GGG TGG ATG GTC CAG TTT GGC CAG CTG ACT TCC ATG CCA TCC TTC        337
Ser Gly Trp Met Val Gln Phe Gly Gln Leu Thr Ser Met Pro Ser Phe
             95                  100                 105

TGG AGC CTG CAG GCC TAC TAC ACC CGT TAC TTC GTA TCG AAT ATC TAT        385
Trp Ser Leu Gln Ala Tyr Tyr Thr Arg Tyr Phe Val Ser Asn Ile Tyr
        110                 115                 120

CTG AGC CCT CGC TAC CTG GGG AAT TCA CCC TAT GAC ATT GCC TTG GTG        433
Leu Ser Pro Arg Tyr Leu Gly Asn Ser Pro Tyr Asp Ile Ala Leu Val
    125                 130                 135

AAG CTG TCT GCA CCT GTC ACC TAC ACT AAA CAC ATC CAG CCC ATC TGT        481
Lys Leu Ser Ala Pro Val Thr Tyr Thr Lys His Ile Gln Pro Ile Cys
140                 145                 150                 155

CTC CAG GCC TCC ACA TTT GAG TTT GAG AAC CGG ACA GAC TGC TGG GTG        529
Leu Gln Ala Ser Thr Phe Glu Phe Glu Asn Arg Thr Asp Cys Trp Val
                160                 165                 170
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CCC CAC ACC CTC CAG GAA GTT CAG GTC GCC ATC ATA AAC AAC TCT ATG        625
Pro His Thr Leu Gln Glu Val Gln Val Ala Ile Ile Asn Asn Ser Met
        190                 195                 200

TGC AAC CAC CTC TTC CTC AAG TAC AGT TTC CGC AAG GAC ATC TTT GGA        673
Cys Asn His Leu Phe Leu Lys Tyr Ser Phe Arg Lys Asp Ile Phe Gly
    205                 210                 215

GAC ATG GTT TGT GCT GGC AAT GCC CAA GGC GGG AAG GAT GCC TGC TTC        721
Asp Met Val Cys Ala Gly Asn Ala Gln Gly Gly Lys Asp Ala Cys Phe
220                 225                 230                 235

GGT GAC TCA GGT GGA CCC TTG GCC TGT AAC AAG GAT GGA CTG TGG TAT        769
Gly Asp Ser Gly Gly Pro Leu Ala Cys Asn Lys Asp Gly Leu Trp Tyr
                240                 245                 250

CAG ATT GGA GTC GTG AGC TGG GGA GTG GGC TGT GGT CGG CCC AAT CGG        817
Gln Ile Gly Val Val Ser Trp Gly Val Gly Cys Gly Arg Pro Asn Arg
            255                 260                 265

CCC GGT GTC TAC ACC AAT ATC AGC CAC CAC TTT GAG TGG ATC CAG AAG        865
Pro Gly Val Tyr Thr Asn Ile Ser His His Phe Glu Trp Ile Gln Lys
        270                 275                 280

CTG ATG GCC CAG AGT GGC ATG TCC CAG CCA GAC CCC TCC TGG CCG CTA        913
Leu Met Ala Gln Ser Gly Met Ser Gln Pro Asp Pro Ser Trp Pro Leu
    285                 290                 295

CTC TTT TTC CCT CTT CTC TGG GCT CTC CCA CTC CTG GGG CCG GTC TGAGCCTACC
968
Leu Phe Phe Pro Leu Leu Trp Ala Leu Pro Leu Leu Gly Pro Val
300                 305                 310                 315

TGAGCCCATG CAGCCTGGGG CCACTGCCAA GTCAGGCCCT GGTTCTCTTC TGTCTTGTTT    1028

GGTAATAAAC ACATTCCAGT TGATGCCTTG CAGGGCATTT TTCAAAAAAA AAAAAAAAAA    1088

AAAAAAAAAA AA                                                        1100
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:6:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:

(A) LENGTH: 314 amino acids

(B) TYPE: amino acid

Leu Lys Tyr Ser Phe Arg Lys Asp Ile Phe Gly Asp Met Val Cys Ala
210 215 220

Gly Asn Ala Gln Gly Gly Lys Asp Ala Cys Phe Gly Asp Ser Gly Gly
225 230 235 240

Pro Leu Ala Cys Asn Lys Asp Gly Leu Trp Tyr Gln Ile Gly Val Val
245 250 255

Ser Trp Gly Val Gly Cys Gly Arg Pro Asn Arg Pro Gly Val Tyr Thr
260 265 270

Asn Ile Ser His His Phe Glu Trp Ile Gln Lys Leu Met Ala Gln Ser
275 280 285

Gly Met Ser Gln Pro Asp Pro Ser Trp Pro Leu Leu Phe Phe Pro Leu
290 295 300

Leu Trp Ala Leu Pro Leu Leu Gly Pro Val
305 310

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:7:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 799 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

(ix) FEATURE:
(A) NAME/KEY: CDS
(B) LOCATION: 24..799

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:7:

AGTTCAGATG AATGGGACTG TGA GAA CCA TCT GTG ACC AAA TTG ATA CAG 50
Glu Pro Ser Val Thr Lys Leu Ile Gln
1 5

GAA CAG GAG AAA GAG CCG CGG TGG CTG ACA TTA CAC TCC AAC TGG GAG 98

Pro Trp Gln Cys Ser Leu Gln Ser Glu Pro Ser Gly His Ile Cys Gly
85 90 95

Cys Val Leu Ile Ala Lys Lys Trp Val Val Thr Val Ala His Cys Phe
100 105 110

Glu Gly Arg Glu Asn Ala Ala Val Trp Lys Val Val Leu Gly Ile Asn
115 120 125

Asn Leu Asp His Pro Ser Val Phe Met Gln Thr Arg Phe Val Arg Thr
130 135 140

Ile Ile Leu His Pro Arg Tyr Ser Arg Ala Val Val Asp Tyr Asp Ile
145 150 155 160

Ser Ile Val Glu Leu Ser Glu Asp Ile Ser Glu Thr Gly Tyr Val Arg
165 170 175

Pro Val Cys Leu Pro Asn Pro Glu Gln Trp Leu Glu Pro Asp Thr Tyr
180 185 190

Cys Tyr Ile Thr Gly Trp Gly His Met Gly Asn Lys Met Pro Phe Lys
195 200 205

Leu Gln Glu Gly Glu Val Arg Ile Ile Ser Leu Glu His Cys Gln Ser
210 215 220

Tyr Phe Asp Met Lys Thr Ile Thr Thr Arg Met Ile Cys Ala Gly Tyr
225 230 235 240

Glu Ser Gly Thr Val Asp Ser Cys Met Gly Asp Trp Gly Gly Pro Leu
245 250 255

Asn Ser

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:9:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 2241 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

485 490 495

Gly Phe Ile Ser Glu Ala Asp Gln Ser Arg Leu Thr Ser Leu Leu Glu
500 505 510

Glu Thr Leu Asn Lys Phe Asn Phe Ala Arg Asn Ser Thr Leu Asn Ser
515 520 525

Ala Ala Val Thr Val Ser Ser
530 535

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:11:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 39 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:11:

GCACAGTCGA CCAAGCCGGA GTCGCAGAG 39

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:12:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 30 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:12:

GCACAAAGCT TGCCAGGAGG GGTCTGGCTG 30

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:13:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 32 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:13:

GCACAACCAT GGCCAAGCCG GAGTCGCAGG AG 32

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:14:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:14:

GCACAAGATC TCCAGGAGGG GTCTGGCTG 29

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:15:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 14 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:15:

Lys Pro Glu Ser Gln Glu Ala Ala Pro Leu Ser Gly Pro Cys

5 10

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:16:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 19 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:16:

Glu Asp Ala Glu Leu Gly Arg Trp Pro Trp Gln Gly Ser Leu Arg Leu Trp Asp
5 10 15
Cys

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:17:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 17 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:17:

Gly Tyr Ile Lys Glu Asp Glu Ala Leu Pro Ser Pro His Thr Leu Gln Cys
5 10 15

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:18:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 29 base pairs
(B) TYPE: nucleic acid
(C) STRANDEDNESS: single
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: DNA

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:18:

GCACAGGTAC CGAGGCCATG GGCGCGCGC

```
TGC CTC CTG AAC TCC ACG TAC AAG TTT GAG AAC CGA ACT GAC TGC TGG        430
Cys Leu Leu Asn Ser Thr Tyr Lys Phe Glu Asn Arg Thr Asp Cys Trp
        130                 135                 140

GTG ACC GGC TGG GGG GCT ATT GGA GAA GAT GAG AGT CTG CCA TCT CCC        478
Val Thr Gly Trp Gly Ala Ile Gly Glu Asp Glu Ser Leu Pro Ser Pro
    145                 150                 155

AAC ACT CTC CAG GAA GTG CAG GTA GCT ATT ATC AAC AAC AGC ATG TGT        526
Asn Thr Leu Gln Glu Val Gln Val Ala Ile Ile Asn Asn Ser Met Cys
160                 165                 170                 175

AAC CAT ATG TAC AAA AAG CCA GAC TTC CGC ACG AAC ATC TGG GGA GAC        574
Asn His Met Tyr Lys Lys Pro Asp Phe Arg Thr Asn Ile Trp Gly Asp
                180                 185                 190

ATG GTT TGC GCT GGC ACT CCT GAA GGT GGC AAG GAT GCC TGC TTT GGT        622
Met Val Cys Ala Gly Thr Pro Glu Gly Gly Lys Asp Ala Cys Phe Gly
            195                 200                 205

GAC TCG GGA GGA CCC TTG GCC TGC GAC CAG GAT ACG GTG TGG TAT CAG        670
Asp Ser Gly Gly Pro Leu Ala Cys Asp Gln Asp Thr Val Trp Tyr Gln
        210                 215                 220

GTT GGA GTT GTG AGC TGG GGA ATA GGC TGT GGT CGC CCC AAT CGC CCT        718
Val Gly Val Val Ser Trp Gly Ile Gly Cys Gly Arg Pro Asn Arg Pro
    225                 230                 235

GGA GTC TAT ACC AAC ATC AGT CAT CAC TAC AAC TGG ATC CAG TCA ACC        766
Gly Val Tyr Thr Asn Ile Ser His His Tyr Asn Trp Ile Gln Ser Thr
240                 245                 250                 255

ATG ATC CGC AAT GGG CTG CTC AGG CCT GAC CCA GTC CCC TTG CTA CTG        814
Met Ile Arg Asn Gly Leu Leu Arg Pro Asp Pro Val Pro Leu Leu Leu
                260                 265                 270

TTT CTT ACT CTG GCC TGG GCT TCC TCT TTG CTG AGG CCT GCC                856
Phe Leu Thr Leu Ala Trp Ala Ser Ser Leu Leu Arg Pro Ala
            275                 280                 285

TGAGCCCACA CGTGTACGTC ACACCTGTGA GGTCAGGGTG TGTCTCTTTT GTATCTTGCT     916

TGCTAATAAA CCTGTTAATA TTTAAAAAAA AAAAAAAAAA AAA                       959
```

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:26:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 285 amino acids
(B) TYPE: amino acid
(D) TOPOLOGY: linear

(ii) MOLECULE TYPE: protein

(xi) SEQUENCE DESCRIPTION: SEQ ID NO:26:

```
Asp Leu Leu Ser Gly Pro Cys Gly His Arg Thr Ile Pro Ser Arg Ile
 1               5                  10                  15

Val Gly Gly Asp Asp Ala Glu Leu Gly Arg Trp Pro Trp Gln Gly Ser
            20                  25                  30

Leu Arg Val Trp Gly Asn His Leu Cys Gly Ala Thr Leu Leu Asn Arg
        35                  40                  45

Arg Trp Val Leu Thr Ala Ala His Cys Phe Gln Lys Asp Asn Asp Pro
    50                  55                  60

Phe Asp Trp Thr Val Gln Phe Gly Glu Leu Thr Ser Arg Pro Ser Leu
65                  70                  75                  80

Trp Asn Leu Gln Ala Tyr Ser Asn Arg Tyr Gln Ile Glu Asp Ile Phe
                85                  90                  95

Leu Ser Pro Lys Tyr Ser Glu Gln Tyr Pro Asn Asp Ile Ala Leu Leu
            100                 105                 110

Lys Leu Ser Ser Pro Val Thr Tyr Asn Asn Phe Ile Gln Pro Ile Cys
        115                 120                 125

Leu Leu Asn Ser Thr Tyr Lys Phe Glu Asn Arg Thr Asp Cys Trp Val
    130                 135                 140

Thr Gly Trp Gly Ala Ile Gly Glu Asp Glu Ser Leu Pro Ser Pro Asn
145                 150                 155                 160

Thr Leu Gln Glu Val Gln Val Ala Ile Ile Asn Asn Ser Met Cys Asn
                165                 170                 175

His Met Tyr Lys Lys Pro Asp Phe Arg Thr Asn Ile Trp Gly Asp Met
```

CTGAACCGGG TTGTGGGCGG CGAGGACAGC ACTGACAGCG AGTGGCCCTG GATCGTGAGC 60

ATCCAGAAGA ATGGGACCCA CCACTGCGCA GGTTCTCTGC TCACCAGCCG CTGGGTGATC 120

ACTGCTGCCC ACTGTTTCAA GGACAACCTG AACAAACCAT ACCTGTTCTC TGTGCTGCTG 180

GGGGCCTGGC AGCTGGGGAA CCCTGGCTCT CGGTCCCAGA AGGTGGGTGT TGCCTGGGTG 240

GAGCCCCACC CTGTGTATTC CTGGAAGGAA GGTGCCTGTG CAGACATTGC CCTGGTGCGT 300

CTCGAGCGCT CCATACAGTT CTCAGAGCGG GTCCTGCCCA TCTGCCTACC TGATGCCTCT 360

ATCCACCTCC CTCCAAACAC CCACTGCTGG ATCTCAGGCT GGGGGAGCAT CCAAGATGGA 420

GTTCCCTTGC CCCACCCTCA GACCCTGCAG AAGCTGAAGG TTCCTATCAT CGACTCGGAA 480

GTCTGCAGCC ATCTGTACTG GCGGGGAGCA GGACAGGGAC CCATCACTGA GGACATGCTG 540

TGTGCCGGCT ACTTGGAGGG GGAGCGGGAT GCTTGTCTGG GCGACTCCGG GGGCCCCCTC 600

ATGTGCCAGG TGGACGGCGC CTGGCTGCTG GCCGGCATCA TCAGCTGGGG CGAGGGCTGT 660

GCCGAGCGCA ACAGGCCCGG GGTCTACATC AGCCTCTCTG CGCACCGCTC CTGGGTGGAG 720

AAGATCGTGC AAGGGGTGCA GCTCCGCGGG CGCGCTCAGG GGGGTGGGGC CCTCAGGGCA 780

CCGAGCCAGG GCTCTGGGGC CGCCGCGCGC TCCTAGGGCG CAGCGGGACG CGGGGCTCGG 840

ATCTGAAAGG CGGCCAGATC CACATCTGGA TCTGGATCTG CGGCGGCCTC GGGCGGTTTC 900

CCCCGCCGTA AATAGGCTCA TCTACCTCTA CCTCTGGGGG CCCGGACGGC TGCTGCGGAA 960

AGGAAACCCC CTCCCCGACC CGCCCGACGG CCTCAGGCCC CGCCTCCAAG GCATCAGGCC 1020

CCGCCCAACG GCCTCATGTC CCCGCCCCCA CGACTTCCGG CCCCGCCCCG GGCCCCAGCG 1080

CTTTTGTGTA TATAAATGTT AATGATTTTT ATAGGTATTT GTAACCCTGC CCACATATCT 1140

TATTTATTCC TCCAATTTCA ATAAA 1165

(2) INFORMATION FOR SEQ ID NO:29:

(i) SEQUENCE CHARACTERISTICS:
(A) LENGTH: 933 base pairs

25. An isolated serine proteinase according to claim 23 encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a sequence capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:5 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

26. An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a serine proteinase and corresponding to a gene proximal to a cluster of genes encoding serine proteinases.

27. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 26 wherein the gene cluster includes at least two genes having the nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or 5 or 28 or 29 or 30 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity to any one of SEQ ID NO:3 or 5 or 28 or 29 or 30 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing to any one of the sequences under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

28. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 25 comprising a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:5 or a nucleotide sequence having at least about 50% similarity to either of SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:5 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:3 or SEQ ID NO:5 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

29. An isolated kinase comprising an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:10 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity thereto.

30. An isolated kinase according to claim 29 encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or capable of hybridizing to SEQ ID NO:9 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

31. A method of regulating cell activity and/or viability said method comprising contacting said cell with an activity and/or viability effective amount of a serine proteinase and/or kinase.

32. A method according to claim 31 wherein the serine proteinase comprises a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence, at least a portion of which, is capable of being amplified by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using the following primers:

5' ACAGAATTCTGGGTIGTIACIGCIGCICAYTG3' [SEQ ID NO:1]; and

5'ACAGAATTCAXIGGICCICCIC/GT/AXTCICC3' [SEQ ID NO:2];

or a complementary form of said primers.

33. A method according to claim 31 wherein the serine proteinase comprises an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:4 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

34. A method according to claim 31 wherein the serine proteinase comprises an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:6 or an amino acid sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto.

35. A method according to claim 31 wherein the serine proteinase comprises an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8 or an amino acid sequence having at least about 50% similarity thereto.

36. A method according to claim 31 wherein the serine proteinase comprises a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

37. A method according to claim 31 wherein the serine proteinase comprises a sequence of amino acids encoded by a nucleotide sequence substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:5 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.

65. A method according to claim 57 whercin said nucleotide sequence is as substantially set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 or a nucleotide sequence having at least 50% similarity thereto or a nucleotide sequence capable of hybridising to the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 under low stringency conditions at 42°C.